

Mr. Jim Mahala, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection

September 24, 2014

Dear Mr. Mahala

Of all the issues coming to your department, the current appeal by The Sconset Beach Preservation Fund to overturn The Nantucket Conservation Commission's ruling on their project; must stand as one of the most contested ones.

I will not waste your time lecturing you on the science and legalese — subjects on which you and all members of DEP are the experts.

The main concern I like to bring to your attention is a topic which has not been discussed to any extent — Common Sense.

As you all well know, any wall, whatever it's nature, eventually leads to the destruction of the beach in front of it. SBPF has come with their solution to this problem; proposing a "nourishment program."

Their plan as You well know, consists of dumping thousands of cubic yards of sand over the bluff, attempting to rebuild the beach year after year in PERPETUITY.

Who in their right mind would propose such lunacy and expect the residents of this Island to believe and embrace it? This is one of those cases when the cure is worse than the disease.

To deliver the sand would put thousands of dump trucks on our roads and the Sconset streets. To power those trucks would require millions of gallons of fuel, which must be shipped to the Island and carried by tanker trucks through the Town streets.

All this activity will turn our peaceful Island into a permanent construction site.

The results: Air pollution, traffic congestion, damage to our infrastructure and lowering the quality of life for generations to come.

All the above will come at a cost of seven hundred thousand dollars per year (SBPF's figures). These figures will increase as the years go by.

It is clear this is a disaster in the making.

The threat to our Island finances and the natural environment that brings thousand of visitors a year; the-lifeblood of our economy, is far too great to allow this wall to remain in place.

As a property owner for the last thirty years and a year round resident since 2000, I respectfully ask you to support the Nantucket Conservation Commission, by upholding their ruling.

Jose F. Trillos
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